

**Listing of Claims**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

1. (currently amended) A measurement data generating method applied to a system for observing a ground based on various data items measured at one or more observation points by at least one measuring instrument, the method comprising the steps of:

storing contract conditions for each of a plurality of contract users;

collecting the measured data items in a collection center;  
and

generating measurement data for each of a plurality of contract users, which is obtained by hierarchically grouping in editing the measured data items according to the stored contract conditions for each of the plurality of contract users;

storing the generated measurement data hierarchically grouped for each of the plurality of contract users in a database; and

transmitting, in response to a data request from a contract user, data containing measurement data corresponding to the contract conditions of the data requesting contract user from the database to the data requesting contract user.

2. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the generating step comprises the step of generating measurement data for each of the plurality of contract users, which is obtained by hierarchically grouping in editing the measured data items according to the stored contract conditions for each of the plurality of contract users on condition that each of the at least one measuring instrument does not malfunction.

3. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the generating step comprises the steps of:

determining whether at least one of the measured data items is abnormal based on expert knowledge;

giving a re-measurement instruction to a corresponding measuring instrument in a case where the at least one of the measured data items is abnormal; and

generating measurement data for each of the plurality of contract users, which is obtained by hierarchically grouping in editing the measured data items according to contract conditions for each of the plurality of contract users in a case where it is determined that the corresponding measuring instrument does not malfunction as a result of re-measurement.

Claim 4 (canceled).

5. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

checking an operation of each measuring instrument by the measured data items in a data management section before the measured data items are collected in the collection center; and

sending the measured data items to the collection center after it is confirmed that the measured data items are normal by the checking.

6. (original) The method according to claim 5, further comprising the step of giving a re-measurement instruction to a corresponding measuring instrument in a case where at least one of the measured data items is abnormal.

7. (currently amended) A measurement data generating apparatus applied to a system for observing a ground based on various data items measured at one or more observation points by at least one measuring instrument, the apparatus comprising:

first storing means for storing contract conditions for each of a plurality of contract users;

collecting means for collecting the measured data items in a collection center; and

generating means for generating measurement data for each of

a plurality of contract users, which is obtained by hierarchically grouping in editing the measured data items according to the stored contract conditions for each of the plurality of contract users;

second storing means for storing the generated measurement data hierarchically grouped for each of the plurality of contract users in a database; and

transmitting means, responsive to a data request from a contract user, for transmitting data containing measurement data corresponding to the contract conditions of the data requesting contract user from the database to the data requesting contract user.

8. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the generating means comprises means for generating measurement data for each of the plurality of contract users, which is obtained by hierarchically grouping in editing the measured data items according to the stored contract conditions for each of the plurality of contract users on condition that each of the at least one measuring instrument does not malfunction.

9. (currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the generating means comprises:

means for determining whether at least one of the measured data items is abnormal based on expert knowledge;

means for giving a re-measurement instruction to a corresponding measuring instrument in a case where the at least one of the measured data items is abnormal; and

means for generating measurement data for each of the plurality of contract users, which is obtained by hierarchically grouping in editing the measured data items according to contract conditions for each of the plurality of contract users in a case where the corresponding measuring instrument does not malfunction as a result of re-measurement.

Claim 10 (canceled).

11. (original) The apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising:

means for checking an operation of each measuring instrument by the measured data items before the measured data items are collected in the collection center; and

means for sending the measured data items to the collection center after it is confirmed that the measured data items are normal by the checking.

12. (original) The apparatus according to claim 11,

Takashi Ohgawara et al.  
Serial No.: 09/940,413  
Filed: August 27, 2001  
Page 7

further comprising means for giving a re-measurement instruction to a corresponding measuring instrument in a case where at least one of the measured data items is abnormal.